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DATE: September 25, 2007

PTO IDENTIFIER: Application Number 10/719,564-Conf. #3551

Patent Number

Inventor: Mitsuharu IMASEKI et al.

MESSAGE TO: US Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: (571) 273-8300

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Application No. (if known): 10/719,564

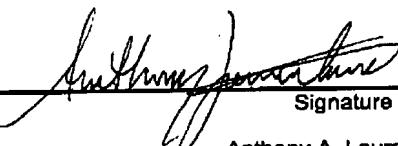
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Response to Office Communication (2 pages)

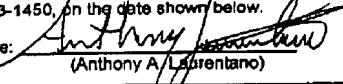
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Docket No.: NGW-013
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Mitsuharu Imaseki *et al.*

Application No.: 10/719,564

Confirmation No.: 3551

Filed: November 20, 2003

Art Unit: 1745

For: **COOLING STRUCTURE FOR FUEL CELL
VEHICLE**

Examiner: M. Ruthkosky

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

MS Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Communication received on August 31, 2007 from the U.S. Patent Office (Paper No. 20070824), Applicants' attorney obtained a translation of the Japanese Examination Report dated May 15, 2007 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-336689 and encloses a copy herewith for the Examiner's review. Also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience are copies of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form SB/08, and English abstract of Citation No. B1: JP 06-239147, all submitted to the U.S. Patent Office on August 3, 2007.

SEP 25 2007

Notification of Reason for Refusal

Issue Date: May 15, 2007

Patent Application No. Patent application 2002-336689

Drafting Date May 9, 2007

Examiner of JPO Haruyuki KANAMARU 9535 3D00

Representative/Applicant Messrs. Masatake SHIGA

(and 5 others)

Applied Provision Patent Law Section 29(2)

The application should be refused for the reason mentioned below. If the applicant has any argument against the reason, such argument should be submitted within 60 days from the date on which this notification was dispatched.

Reason

The inventions in the claims listed below of this application should not be granted a patent under the provision of Patent Law Section 29(2) since they could have easily been made by persons who have common knowledge in the technical field to which the inventions pertain, on the basis of inventions described in the publications listed below which were distributed, or inventions made available to public through an electric communication line, in Japan or foreign countries prior to the filing of the subject application.

Note

- Claims 1 - 6
- Cited documents

1. JP-A-2000-315513 (hereinafter, referred to as "first cited document".)
2. JP-A-06-239147 (hereinafter, referred to as "second cited document".)

- Remark

With regard to Claim 1

The cited document 1 discloses a cooling structure for a fuel cell vehicle, which comprises a fuel cell, a drive motor for driving the vehicle using the energy generated by the fuel cell, a first cooling flow passage for cooling the fuel cell using a first cooling medium cooled by a main radiator, and a second cooling flow passage for cooling the drive motor or a power control unit of the drive motor using a second cooling medium cooled by an auxiliary radiator. On the one hand, the cited document 2 discloses such a technique that a radiator is disposed in a central portion of a front surface of a vehicle body, and an inter cooler and an oil cooler are disposed on the front surface of the vehicle body in such a manner that their heat exchange surfaces are situated shifted in a vehicle-width direction so as to prevent them from being

overlapped with a heat exchange surface of the radiator. A person skilled in the art could easily arrive at an idea of realizing a configuration as shown in the invention of Claim 1 in the subject application, by applying the technique disclosed in the cited document 2 to the cooling structure for a fuel cell vehicle disclosed in the cited document 1.

with regard to Claim 2

The cited document 1 discloses a cooling structure for a fuel cell vehicle, which comprises a fuel cell, a drive motor for driving the vehicle using the energy generated by the fuel cell, a first cooling flow passage for cooling the fuel cell using a first cooling medium cooled by a main radiator, and a second cooling flow passage for cooling the drive motor or a power control unit of the drive motor using a second cooling medium cooled by an auxiliary radiator. On the one hand, the cited document 2 discloses such a technique that a radiator is disposed on a front surface of a vehicle body so as to extend substantially over a vehicle-width-direction entire area existing between a pair of right and left main frames respectively disposed along a back-and-forth direction of the vehicle body, and an inter cooler and an oil cooler are disposed on the front surface of the vehicle body in such a manner that they are situated outside the main frames. A person skilled in the art could easily arrive at an idea of realizing a

configuration as shown in the invention of Claim 1 in the subject application, by applying the technique disclosed in the cited document 2 to the cooling structure for a fuel cell vehicle disclosed in the cited document 1.

With regard to Claim 3

The cited document 2 discloses such a technique that an inter cooler and an oil cooler are disposed in such a manner that their heat exchange surfaces face obliquely forwardly and outwardly.

With regard to Claim 4

The cited document 2 discloses such a technique that a radiator is disposed in such a manner that its heat exchange surface faces obliquely forwardly and outwardly.

With regard to Claim 5

A person skilled in the art could arrive at an idea of disposing, between a main radiator and an auxiliary radiator, a seal member for closing a space existing between them.

With regard to Claim 6

The cited document 2 discloses such a technique that an installation height of an inter cooler and an oil cooler is set lower than that of a radiator.

Record of the result of prior art search

- Technical field to be searched IPC B60K 11/04

This record is not a component of the reason for refusal.

If the applicant has any inquiry regarding content of this notification of reason for refusal, or wish for an interview, please make contact with Patent Examination Second Department, Transport, Haruyuki KANAMARU (TEL. 03(3581)1101 Extension 3339).

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Express Mail Label No. EM 088425558 US Dated: August 3, 2007

Docket No.: NGW-013
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Mitsuharu Imaseki *et al.*

Application No.: 10/719,564

Confirmation No.: 3551

Filed: November 20, 2003

Art Unit: 1745

For: COOLING STRUCTURE FOR FUEL CELL
VEHICLE

Examiner: M. Ruthkosky

MS Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, Applicants hereby make of record the following additional documents. A PTO Form SB/08 and a full copy of each of the documents required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) accompany this statement.

Applicants have become aware of the following documents, cited in a Japanese Examination Report issued May 15, 2007, during the prosecution of Application No. 2002-336689, which corresponds to the above referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c) and (e)(1) or (b)(3), hereby submit these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited on the enclosed PTO Form SB/08, and a copy of the Examination Report and of each document required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) cited thereon are enclosed as well.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited documents are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any document herein be construed *per se* as a representation that

Application No.: 10/719,564

Docket No.: NGW-013

such document is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited documents.

Please note that Applicants' attorney does not include in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement reference JP-A-2000-315513 cited in the corresponding Examination